

**Subpart—United States Standards
for Grades of Canned Ripe
Olives¹**

SOURCE: 42 FR 38585, July 29, 1977, unless otherwise noted. Redesignated at 46 FR 63203, Dec. 31, 1981.

**PRODUCT DESCRIPTION, TYPES, STYLES,
AND GRADES**

§ 52.3751 Product description.

Canned ripe olives are prepared from properly matured olives which have first been properly treated to remove the characteristic bitterness; are packed in a solution of sodium chloride, with or without spices, and are sufficiently processed by heat in hermetically sealed containers. Canned olives which are not oxidized in processing and which possess a tan to light bronze color indicative of preparation from olives of advanced maturity and commonly referred to as “tree-ripened” or “home-cured” are not covered by the standards in this subpart.

§ 52.3752 Types of canned ripe olives.

Canned ripe olives are processed as two distinct types. Unless a specific type is stated in this subpart, “canned ripe olives” refers to olives of either “ripe-type” or “green-ripe type.”

(a) *Ripe type*. “Ripe type” olives are those which have been treated and oxidized in processing to produce a typical dark brown to black color.

(b) *Green-ripe type*. “Green-ripe type” olives are those which have not been oxidized in processing; which range in color from yellow-green; green-yellow or other greenish casts; and which may be mottled.

¹Compliance with the provisions of these standards shall not excuse failure to comply with the provisions of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, or with applicable State laws and regulations.

§ 52.3753 Styles of canned ripe olives.

(a) *Whole*. “Whole” olives are those which have not been pitted.

(b) *Pitted*. “Pitted” olives are those from which pits have been removed.

(c) *Halved*. “Halved” olives are pitted olives in which each olive is cut lengthwise into two approximately equal parts.

(d) *Segmented*. “Segmented” olives are pitted olives in which each olive is cut lengthwise into three or more approximately equal parts.

(e) *Sliced*. “Sliced” olives consist of parallel slices of fairly uniform thickness prepared from pitted olives.

(f) *Chopped*. “Chopped” olives are random-size cut pieces or cut bits prepared from pitted olives.

(g) *Broken pitted*. “Broken pitted” olives consist substantially of large pieces that may have been broken in pitting but have not been sliced or cut.

**§ 52.3754 Size designations for whole
and pitted styles.**

(a) *General*. (1) “Average count” for canned whole ripe olives is determined from all containers in the sample and is calculated on the basis of the drained weight of the olives.

(2) Diameters of canned whole and pitted ripe olives are determined by measuring the smallest diameters at the largest circumferences at right angles to the longitudinal axes of the olives. The longitudinal axis is a line running from the stem to the apex of the olive.

(b) *Size determination*. Size of canned whole or pitted olives shall conform to the applicable count per pound range indicated in Table I in the case of whole olives, or conform closely to the applicable illustration in Table I in the case of pitted olives. When the count per pound of whole olives falls between two count ranges, the size designation shall be the next smaller size.